## **ABSTRACT**

The present invention provides a compact variable valve operating device that is capable of mechanically changing the operating characteristic of a valve. The rotation motion of a camshaft is input to the valve via a swing member. A slide surface is formed on the swing member. Intermediate members are positioned in contact with both the slide surface and drive cam surface. A support member for supporting the 10 intermediate members is mounted on a control member. The control member can rotate in relation to the camshaft and is interlocked with a control shaft via rotation interlock mechanisms. When the control member rotates in coordination with the rotation of the 15 control shaft, the intermediate members move along the drive cam surface and slide surface. The operating characteristic of the valve then changes in coordination with a positional change of the 20 intermediate members.